

3 1947

# Glad Tidings



## Missions

During the war a vast number of cargoes of lend lease supplies of all kinds left this country for use overseas. By this means the sinews of war were nourished until the victory had been won. Since the cessation of hostilities cargoes of postwar necessities have been sent that they might aid in bringing life back to normal or in some measure alleviate the pain and pinch of need as conditions still sway under the violence of war.

The *Marine Lynx* moving from the dock in San Francisco to head for distant shores, for the third time carrying a special cargo (or, in this case, passenger list) of missionaries, was not, by far, taking the least important export item this country can offer a needy world. On its third trip across the Pacific with missionaries, representing practically all denominations, with their equipment and baggage, that small ship, as ships go, carried a precious cargo, the church's main and most important contribution to needy souls, who, though suffering many needs, have the greatest need, that for the Bread of Life, our Lord and Saviour.

It is considered noble of a draftee to submit to the charge of his Government and be sent anywhere it so orders. We would not disparage that sacrifice on the altar of national necessity. But a missionary is a volunteer in the service of his Lord, whose "kingdom is not of this world," whose G.I. bill of rights, so to speak, at the end of service, is a "Well done, though good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

The writer recently attended a missionary convention of another denomination, one, at first mention of which, some would doubtless take for granted would be more interested in education than evangelization, but which, in fact, in that convention was pre-eminently concerned with the spreading of the gospel, the main theme being the need of consecration—consecration to go and consecration to give—and for the conversion of lost souls to the Redeemer Lord.

To quote one speaker, who in turn

was quoting from a leader in still another denomination, often thought of as still less evangelical, "The greatest hindrance to missions is the condition of the church at home." That diagnosis might be applied to our own communion. With us there seems to be plenty of young folk to go, but the means to send them are limited. Our own movement does remarkably well when compared to some others, but it is not yet the leader in missions giving per capita.

"Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? (Rom. 10: 13-15). Thus questions the Apostle Paul.

A boat load of missionaries pulling out from shore and heading across the Pacific is a challenge to the church today. No matter what else the group at home may accomplish in buildings, crowd growing, youth training, and outward success, if the job of carrying the gospel is done in smaller measure than could an all-out effort in going and giving accomplish, that much we have failed.

Missions is not a charity child of the church. Missions is not an extra curricular activity of the movement. It is a vital part. A strong church in the homeland is needed, but it will be the stronger for a vision of missions. Physicians tell us a person must have a reason for living or when ill his chances for recovery are minimized. So the church, and so our movement. Our local growth and development is not an end in itself. If so, weakness has set in.

How foreign is foreign missions in the sight of God? Are Congo Belge or Patagonia farther from the sight of God than our home assembly? They may be theologically, but He is everywhere. "If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there thy right hand shall hold me" (Ps. 139:9). Jesus died to save souls

in all the world—Timbuktu and Toledo, Nepal and New York. The earth is round. In God's sight there are no distant corners. Wherever His children are, heaven and earth are close together in the union of the believer and His Lord.

Missions will join the earth and heaven at many points in a weld of worship and blessing as new souls are shown the Lamb of God, blinded eyes of heathendom are opened to the Light of the world, and pagan ways give place to Christian conduct. He's coming soon. How soon we do not know. But as soon as all who shall be are saved and the program is complete—"Some from every tribe and nation will be there."

May God use the missionaries who have gone to new lands to carry His gospel, and may the church at home come behind in no way in fulfilling its part of the program. As the home base for "Operations missions" may it supply the need of gospel expeditions into territory of unfriendly conditions, both spiritual and physical.

—M.M.

Falsehood may have its hour, but it has no future.

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Whatever hinders us from doing our best for God and good should be regarded as an evil.

## GLAD TIDINGS

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OUR newspapers and news magazines have been headlining the many stories of conniving and plotting, spying and political intriguing as the great powers are jockeying for position of world leadership and dominion. Subtle and artful are the ways and means of getting vital information about atomic power and its component subjects. Pseudo-political organizations spring into being with high sounding patriotic names, only to be uncovered as "fifth-column" underground movements. All of these are a part of the vast international political intrigue that is going on in every part of the world.

There is a great and vastly more far-reaching counterpart to this in the realm of the spiritual. Paul had a crystal clear insight into these evil strategies, and he admonishes us to "Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." Eph. 6:10-12 Revised standard version. In other words, if they can be prosecuted to their full evil there are spiritual intrigues, conspiracies, plots and plans that are as devastating to the souls of men as the atom bomb was to the populations of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

These principalities and powers—these spiritual hosts of wickedness—these world rulers of this present darkness are all bound together in a vast Satanic intrigue against the human race. Come back with me through the ages of Eden. A highly successful stratagem was used against this newly created being who was exalted so highly as to be created in the image of the Majesty on High. And man's position and dignity, and exaltation were so marred and destroyed that only by the greatest act of atonement on the part of God Himself was the possibility of restoration brought about. Retracing our steps a little, we see another example of this great and evil intrigue. The scene is laid before us in the opening chapter of Job. The sons of God are gathered in a great fellowship council and are presenting themselves to God. Among these children of the Morning Star there is a shaft of

## SPIRITUAL INTRIGUES

by R. J. RENFROE

darkness as Satan intrudes his evil presence into the scene. As God expresses His pleasure over the integrity and uprightness of a man named Job, Satan reveals his evil design to do all in his power to alienate man from God. Again we mount the stairs of the centuries pausing only when we come to banks of the river Hiddekel in ancient Babylon. Daniel has been praying for three weeks and he is now listening to the voice of an angelic being speaking to him, "Fear not, Daniel, from the first day . . . thy words were heard . . . but the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me . . ." Principalities and powers, world rulers of this present darkness hindering the prayers of God's people. Coming a little farther back along the corridors of time we stop by the banks of another river, the Jordan. John is announcing, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." This is the man who is pre-viewed in prophecy as the "Lion of the tribe of Judah . . . , the One who would rule the world in Justice and Righteousness. Again we see the great Satanic intrigue as Jesus is tempted to gain His goal through counterfeit means. We travel quickly now and take a brief panoramic view of the history of the church, and we see a continuous record of maneuvering and plotting by the forces of evil to gain an advantage over the church. "Lest Satan should get an advantage over us, for we are not ignorant of his devices," writes Paul. We have some advantages in this warfare against the spiritual hosts of wickedness. Our advantages lie in the knowledge of some of the devices that are used against us, and in knowing about ourselves—becoming familiar with the rivers of human tendencies that flow within us. Let us look at the latter advantage first. Before sin entered, the whole being of man was centered around God. Man's spirit was active, and was ever pointing and leading him toward God. When sin entered, the spirit of man became dormant or dead, and man's body, his senses, took over the function of governing in the place of his spirit. In other words, he lost his God-consciousness and became

ego-centric or conscious of himself. His world revolved around himself. All questions are now settled on the basis of what effect it will have upon himself. The outgrowth of this is selfishness in all of its varied manifestations. Though at times there is a stirring within himself of better things, yet, because he is governed by the senses, he is unable to conduct his life along the principles he knows to be right. Romans 7 gives point to this fact. The Scriptures say he is carnal. He loves himself. He loves ease. He loves to be important. He loves to "show off." If anything should hinder or keep him from these things, he reacts against whatever it may be that hinders. Satan uses this reaction to keep people from making a complete consecration to God. Sometimes, even after our lives have been transformed through acceptance of the atonement of Christ, and our spirits are made alive and vital again, we fall back into the old way of allowing ourselves to be governed by the senses. We do not want our bodily comforts disturbed, so we hesitate to make a complete consecration—one that involves sacrifice and cross-bearing—to the Lord. Can we not see the plotting and planning of the forces of evil in this to keep us from effective living for God? Paul saw those possibilities and actualities (we have learned the theory from him. . . the practical demonstration we find in ourselves) and cried out, "I beseech you therefore by the mercies of God," those marvelous truths of regeneration, justification, and sanctification, "that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, set apart for the use of God, which is acceptable to God, and which is your spiritual worship." If you are ruled by the Spirit, which brings you into vital contact with God under the vivifying power of His Spirit, you will not be gripped by the evil-eyed monster of jealousy, that devourer and destroyer of fellowship among God's people. You will not be critical one of another, until all you can see is one another's defects, and the effect of the moving of God is minimized because each one knows that God cannot move through the other, for the other has

so many defects and imperfections. No longer will selfwill, stubbornness and unteachableness be characteristic of you if you refuse to live in the realm of carnality and ascend into the higher realms of spirituality. To live in the realm of the carnal is to give assent and lend co-operation to the wicked plots and intrigues of the satanic powers.

These intrigues and plans and evil devices are sometimes so interwoven in the fabric of our impulses and reasonings as to be almost indistinguishable from them. But, thank God, "we are not ignorant of his devices." Someone has said that Satan's devices are discouragement, division, and distraction. He takes these carnal tendencies which we have and into them he weaves this unholy pattern. If discouragement fails to bring the desired defeat of spirituality in a spiritual people, then he tries division, and he plays the minor chord of jealousy, criticism, and back-biting, and hurt feelings until we become inflamed with the fever of it all and the church is seized with the sickness of division and strife. No wonder Paul writes to the Romans in this vein, "Mark them which cause divisions and offenses among you, and avoid them." They are the unwitting tools of satanic intrigue. If Satan cannot effect division (too often he is successful), he goes on to distraction. He would distract us from our great purpose of serving God. To do this he causes us to pay more attention to the matters of administration in the church than to the vision of winning souls to God. Ritual, ceremony, and symbolism become the challenge of the day rather than personal worship and contact with God. He causes us to treat minor matters as though they were the goal of our whole endeavor. Or he would cause us to stress as major doctrines in our theology, things of which there is little or no mention in the Scriptures. Oh, yes, the satanic intrigue is very subtle . . . he comes as an "angel of light" suggesting that we take the good things of God, pervert them, and dissipate their effectiveness by expending them upon the whims and fancies of our feelings.

Not all of the plans, projects, and plottings in the spiritual realms are negative and destructive. Up above the atmosphere of the world rulers of this

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The hope of the Christian is an expectation of all necessary good, both in time and eternity, and is founded on the promises of God and on the offices of the righteousness and the intercession of Christ.

It is compounded of desire, expectation, patience, and joy (Rom. 8:24, 25). It may be considered first as pure (John 3:2, 3). It resides in the heart which is cleansed from sin. Second, it may be considered as good (2 Thess. 2:16), and in distinction from the hope of a hypocrite or man of the world, as deriving its origin from God, centering in Him. Third, it is called lively (1 Peter 1:3). It is considered lively, for it proceeds from spiritual life, and it renders one active and lively in good works. Fourth, it is courageous (Rom. 5:5) because it exercises fortitude; it is firm and endures. Proverbs 14:32 and Hebrews 6:19 say it is sure. It will not disappoint us and is fixed on a sure foundation. Romans 5:2 says that it produces the greatest felicity in the anticipation of complete deliverance from all evil.

Hope does not remove trouble no more than does the anchor of a ship dispel the storm. Neither does the

anchor quiet the roaring waves, nor arrest the rolling thunder, nor bid the winds be still; but it enables the vessel to ride out the fury of the gale, and keeps her from being driven on the rocks of death.

Hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in the heart by the Holy Ghost, which is bestowed upon us. Take away hope and you take away the enjoyment of prosperity. And you also take away the only support and solace in adversity. The most happy and the most prosperous, without hope, would become the most wretched. Without hope the poor and afflicted would sink at once into the sea of despond. To deprive man of hope is to rob him of his dearest treasure.

Extinguish hope and you extinguish life, for who could live without hope. It is the last lingering light of the human breast. It shines when every other light is put out. Quench hope and the very gloom of all affliction becomes the very blackness of darkness and despair.

"And now abideth . . . hope" (1 Cor 13:13).

—Submitted by George L. Overton

### It Takes Courage

To refrain from gossip when others about you delight in it.

To stand up for an absent person who is being abused.

To live honestly within your means and not dishonestly on the means of others.

To be a real man, a real woman, by holding fast to your ideals when it causes you to be looked upon as strange and peculiar.

To be talked about and yet remain silent when a word would justify you in the eyes of others, but which you cannot speak without injury to another.

To refuse to do a thing which is wrong, though others do it.

To dress according to your income and to deny yourself what you cannot afford to buy.

To live always according to your convictions. —*The Trumpeter.*

### You Can't Fool God

You can fool the hapless public,

You can be a subtle fraud,

You can hide your little meanness,

But you can't fool God!

You can advertise your virtues,

You can self-achievement laud,

You can load yourself with riches,

But you can't fool God!

You can criticize the Bible,

You can be a selfish clod,

You can lie, swear, drink, and gamble,

But you can't fool God!

You can magnify your talent,

You can hear the world applaud,

You can boast yourself somebody,

But you can't fool God!

—Grenville Kleiser.

Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance; it is laying hold of His highest willingness.—Trench.

\* \* \* \* \*

Anxiety is the poison of human life.

## ACCIDENT PREVENTION IN THE CHURCH

by WILLIAM NEIN

During the year just preceding the cessation of World War II, I had a rather responsible and very interesting position with a large industrial concern in Sunnyvale that was producing materiel for the United States Navy. The word *large* is a relative term; so I will qualify it by saying there were some 4,000 employees on the payroll. My position was that of assistant safety engineer for the Joshua Hendy Iron Works during the hours from 4:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. daily.

The Safety Engineering Department had a very definite and well regarded duty. That duty was to prevent accidents. By "accidents" I do not designate only those that resulted in bodily injury. All accidents do not result in personal harm; in fact thousands of accidents never cause a person to be hurt. This assertion makes it necessary to explain what is meant by the word *accident*. A definition we favored is, "Any unforeseen or unplanned occurrences that interrupt or interfere with orderly progress of the activity in question." Two important features are "unplanned" and "interruption."

The Safety Engineering Department had certain procedures which it followed in establishing and maintaining safety. One procedure was meeting with each group of new employees for one hour on the day it commenced work. The writer, who was a safety engineer, described numerous hazards, warned against the common unsafe acts, and set forth certain rules of conduct. At the start of the talk the new employee was welcomed as a fellow-worker, and it was impressed upon his mind that his decision to become a part of "Hendy" was important. One-third of his waking hours would be spent at the plant and his welfare was greatly dependent upon the welfare of his new employer.

There was a daily plant inspection by the Safety Engineering Department. It took a lot of walking and observing to cover the whole plant. There were seven huge factory buildings, six additional smaller ones, countless power-

driven machines, assembly lines, foundry activity, tool making, drilling, reaming, boring, material-moving, welding, sand-blasting, planing, heat-treating, cleaning, painting, dissembling, repair, maintenance, gear cutting, machining, practically every kind and degree of industrial activity.

Two things for which we were always alert were (1) unsafe acts, and (2) unsafe conditions. The unsafe acts on the part of the employees were attributable to numerous causes:—inexperience, poor judgment, disobedience, attention distracted, chance taking, haste, temper. The unsafe conditions were mechanically unguarded machines, poorly-designed machines, bad storage of material, congestion, defective tools, bad ventilation and lighting, ineffective personal safety equipment such as goggles, masks, etc.

We appointed safety captains among the employees; several in each building. They were on the look-out for hazards and were privileged to make suggestions to individuals who were offenders. Usually the safety captain reported his observations to the safety engineer.

There were two-hour classes each week for 12 weeks held for the purposes of teaching foremen accident prevention. These classes were mandatory so far as the foremen were concerned. They were under the supervision of Stanford University as a part of the Federal Government's training program within industry. Every foreman was directly responsible for the safety of his employees; he was virtually a safety engineer.

Now to draw an analogy or comparison between the subject of accident prevention in industry and accident prevention in the church, for Christians, particularly those newly come into Christian fellowship, meet with accidents.

Let us refer to the definition of an accident to see if it applies, "Any unforeseen or unplanned occurrence that interrupts or interferes with orderly progress of the activity in question." The activity here is Christian living.

As surely as there is a wastage of human values through accident in industry, so, too, is there a wastage of spiritual values through accident in Christian life. The numerical losses, either temporary or permanent, among church membership are heavy. And it is possible to reduce this large proportion through study, admonition, guidance, and supervision. Remember always that many, many who encounter these interferences and interruptions are young folks of exceptional promise. This moving out and away from the church is not planned or foreseen; it is accidental, and it should be treated as such.

In the category of unsafe acts, here are some that are to be observed and avoided: unplanned laxness in church attendance, unintentional failure to read and study God's Word, unforeseen loss of interest in most church activities, perfunctory prayer or none in the home, trying to hold on to the pleasures of the world, poor judgment and bad decision, unplanned disobedience of God's moral laws, disregard for man's laws, lack of self-discipline, and wrong associates.

And there are unsafe conditions within the church. I will mention some of them without further comment; you will recognize them: modernism, lack of reverence, dissension, absence of God's power.

Perhaps we can lay some responsibility upon *management*; for the church organization has executive direction and management just as surely as industry has them. Management in the church is the duty of the pastor and board of deacons. Also it evolves upon the director or leader of young people's activities and upon the Sunday school superintendent and staff. You can name off a number of their duties readily: interesting instruction, vital messages, zealous leadership, earnest prayer, careful admonition, inspirational services.

Fellow church members are not free from responsibility in the matter of accidents to those who fall away. Are you living an exemplary Christian life? Attending services regularly? Supporting your church financially? Manifesting loving kindness? Extending a feeling of Christian fellowship?

There was an expression that we used frequently at work. It was this, "No

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## THE "GREAT TRUMPET" OF ISAIAH 27:13

by J. NARVER GORTNER

The age in which we live is the church age. God is not dealing with Israel, as a nation, at the present time. The middle wall of partition is down between the Jews and Gentiles. Eph. 2:14. God's clock, as has frequently been said, so far as Israel is concerned, stopped when the nation rejected and crucified the Son of God. At that time the sixty-ninth week of Daniel came to an end. The church age has been fitted by God into a parenthesis between the sixty-ninth and seventieth weeks. How long this parenthesis will last we have not been told, and we have no means of ascertaining. Our Lord made it very clear when He was here in the flesh that "of that day and hour knoweth no man." Matt. 24:36. The parenthesis will end when the church age shall come to a close, and the church age will end with the rapture of the saints, which will be the first stage of the second advent of Christ. We believe that the signs of the times indicate that the rapture is very near. The instruction of our Lord is that we should be ready at all times, and that we should continually be on the alert, for "the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not." Luke 12:40.

It is interesting to watch the progress of events, and to mark the fact that the trend is toward the final goal when the saints of the church age shall all have been gathered home, the storm of the tribulation shall have spent its fury, the Davidic throne shall have been re-established, and the kingdom age shall have been ushered in. There is to be a fulfilment of all the prophecies that have not yet been fulfilled. Not one single prophecy can fail. While God is not dealing with Israel as a nation, He is preserving Israel, and the preservation of the nation in the midst of the nations that have sought to destroy it has been one of the most outstanding, if not the most outstanding miracle of all the ages, if we except the miracle of the resurrection of our Lord which is to be regarded as the greatest display of omnipotence that we have any record of. See Eph. 1:20. The preservation of Israel in the midst of the tumultuous na-

tions was typified by the preservation of Jonah after he was thrown overboard and swallowed by the "great fish" that "the Lord had prepared." Jonah 1:17. Jonah supposed that he was coming to the end of his earthly life and ministry; but his greatest and most successful ministry was to follow. Through his preaching, the whole city of Nineveh was humbled in sackcloth before Jehovah, the God of Jonah, and, as a result of repentance, was spared. After our Lord shall have come and shall have set up the Davidic throne, Israel will carry the message of life to the nations; and success such as attended Jonah's ministry in Nineveh, will attend Israel's efforts to evangelize the world.

In the meantime Israel is to be regathered. Not only the Jews, but all Israel. We know not where the ten tribes, frequently spoken of as "the lost tribes," are at the present time. But God knows where they are, and He will regather them, as well as the Jews. We are sometimes told that all the tribes of Israel are included at the present time in that class of people known to us as the Jews. But this does not seem to be the teaching of the Word which distinguishes between "the dispersed of Judah" and "the outcasts of Israel," the former undoubtedly meaning the Jews and the latter the ten tribes. Isa. 11:12. And this passage most certainly has reference to the final regathering, as the prophecy has never been fulfilled. The ten tribes were carried away into captivity approximately one hundred and fifty years before Judah was carried away by Nebuchadnezzar in the days of Zedekiah. There was a return of the Jews after the seventy years of captivity, but there was no return of the people of the northern kingdom. So this prophecy awaits fulfilment. In Isaiah 27:12 we read, "Ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel." Dr. Henry Cowles in his Commentary on Isaiah says, "It is not precisely 'gathered one by one,' but rather *one to one*.—i.e., one to another; brought together from their dispersions. The blowing of the Lord's great trumpet is the signal for this assembling of the outcast and almost

perishing exiles. Restored, they worship the Lord (as their fathers did) in the holy mount at Jerusalem." This interpretation is in harmony with the marginal rendering in the Revised Version, and is probably correct. Israel will not be brought back to Palestine "one by one," but will be brought together, one to one, from the four corners of the earth.

It appears to us that this regathering has already been begun. It is certainly interesting to watch present-day developments. Some wonder what the ultimate outcome of the trouble in the Holy Land is going to be. Will the land be partitioned? Will the Jews get a part and the Arabs a part? What kind of an agreement will be entered into? If the country is to be divided between the Jews and the Arabs, will the Jews get Jerusalem or will the Arabs get it? If Jerusalem is to be divided, a part given to the Jews and a part to the Arabs, will the Jews get the sacred precincts where the Temple once stood and where the Mosque of Omar now stands, or will the Arabs get this coveted spot? We do not know everything, but this we know: no agreement that may be made will stand unless the *entire* land is given to Israel. It has been asserted that the Arabs as well as the Jews are the descendants of Abraham. But the Word of God makes it clear that God said, "In Isaac shall thy seed be called." Not to the seed of Ishmael, but to the seed of Isaac did God promise to give the land wherein Abraham was a stranger. And God will keep His word. So the *entire* land will someday be the possession of "the dispersed of Judah" and "the outcasts of Israel" when they shall have been regathered to the land of promise.

We appear to be living in very momentous days. Surely we shall not be here much longer. Surely the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. Surely the "last trump" that Paul speaks of in 1 Corinthians 15:52 will soon be heard by those whose hearts are in tune with God; and the first stage of the first resurrection will take place, and all the prepared ones among us will go up to meet Jesus in the air. The storm of the tribulation will then burst upon the earth, and, at the end of that terrific period of unparalleled suffering, the second stage of our Lord's second advent will take place; the prophecy of Zechariah 14:4

will be fulfilled, and then will come to pass what our Lord has foretold in Matthew 24:13, "And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." Efforts to make the "elect" of this prophetic utterance mean the "elect" of the church will necessarily fail. There is no reference whatsoever here to the elect of the church age. At the time of the fulfilment of this prophecy the church will not have been on the earth for at least seven years. The last week of Daniel will have run its course, and the time will have come for the setting up of the kingdom of the Son of man. If the teachers who have taught that the "elect" of Matthew 24:13 are the "elect" of the church age had been as familiar with their Bible as they should have been they would not have fallen into this error. The trumpet our Lord speaks of is not "the last trump" of 1 Corinthians 15:52 which is the same as "the trump of God" of 1 Thessalonians 4:16, but rather "the great trumpet" Isaiah makes mention of in Isaiah 27:13, "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the Lord in the holy mount at Jerusalem." That the reference in this passage is to the final regathering is evident from the preceding verse in which we read, "Ye shall be gathered one by one," or, as we have seen the meaning is, one to one, or, one to another, "O ye children of Israel." This preceding verse should be regarded as proving conclusively that the text has no reference to the church saints whatsoever, but that it refers exclusively to Israel. It will be seen that a correct knowledge of dispensational truth is essential to a correct understanding and interpretation of the Scriptures, and it will also be seen how a failure to compare Scripture with Scripture, and interpret Scripture in the light of Scripture, has led, and is leading, many astray in their understanding of the Word. The Holy Spirit has told us in 2 Peter 1:20 that "no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation," the meaning being that it must not be separated from its context, and from other passages that relate to the same subject,

The famous evangelist Sam P. Jones once came to Meridian to conduct a city-wide revival campaign. He was the guest of Mr. Link P. Brown, whose prayers were the dread of saloon-keepers and law-breakers for a score of years. And these two Christians cemented at that time a friendship that was never disrupted.

Later Brother Jones' daughter in Cartersville, Georgia, became so seriously ill that her life was despaired of

## The Bible

There's a Book we call the Bible  
It is God's own blessed Word;  
You will find between its covers  
Words the like you've never heard.

When we read it we are hearing  
God's own voice, so sweet and pure,  
And His promises He always  
Keeps, for they are true and sure.

Let us read it and obey it,  
Then our lives will give Him praise,  
It will help us in our trials,  
As for God we spend our days.

—Selected.

and made to teach what these other passages, taken as a whole, do not teach.

A good brother came to me quite recently, thinking he had found something in the Word I had never seen. It convinced him that the church is scheduled to go through the tribulation, and he thought it would doubtless convince me. He took it for granted that I had never seen it; how otherwise, he reasoned, could I believe that the rapture will precede the tribulation? But when I had pointed out to him the dispensational setting of the passage, and showed him that it has no reference to the church saints whatsoever, he saw things in a different light.

The rapture may take place at any moment. But the revelation that we read of in Revelation, the nineteenth chapter, cannot take place until Daniel's seventieth week shall have run its course. Then Christ will come in glory. May we go up to meet Him at the rapture, and come down with Him at the revelation!

by her physicians. Mr. Brown as a friend mighty in prayer, was appealed to. Brother Brown and his wife have in their home a room dedicated to prayer, which they call Peniel. Into this "secret place" they went, and literally spread before the Lord the telegram from their friends. They remained there on their knees until God gave them positive assurance that Sam Jones' daughter would recover.

It was on the following day that Mr. Brown walked downtown and met a presiding elder, who said, "Brother Brown, it is sad news we have from Cartersville: Brother Jones' daughter is dead."

Brother Brown answered in his quiet composed manner, "May I have that telegram?"

The presiding elder gave it to him; and he returned home, called Mrs. Brown again into "Peniel," and spread this telegram also before the Lord. After hours of prayer, Brother Brown was assured that there was something wrong with the telegram, and that the daughter would recover. Then that man of prayer arose, went in his quiet way to the telegraph office and sent this message: "There is something wrong about wire received. God promised restoration."

That telegram passed another from Cartersville to Brother Brown which said in substance that Sam Jones' daughter was better. And she continued to improve until she was well.

Some friend of the family had heard that the end was near, and had wired the death message to their friend.

How few Christians would dare to challenge a telegram announcing a death! Whose faith would not give way before such a telegram? How few of us persist in importuning God until we are prepared to receive the holy gifts which His love bestows. Oh that we all might enter more largely into our sacred rights in prayer.

"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." —Heb. 11:1.

God has a beaten path. All detouring is on our part. Many sad experiences come from trying short cuts to save time. God knows how much time is needed." —Selected.

## W. M. C.

As we reach forth hands of love to our missionaries in gifts and prayer, we are not only helping our missionaries, but by faith are reaching beyond to those they minister to, and thus we fulfill the "royal law" according to James 2:8, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

We are glad to announce that our China Relief depot is established at 1012 E. 14th Street, Oakland, California, and already bundles and boxes of clothing are being received in the mail, by express, and by automobile.

A letter from Brother Noel Perkin, Foreign Missions Secretary at our Springfield headquarters, quotes Glenn Dunn, writing from Hong Kong, China: "The shipment of relief clothing that has been distributed here in these two provinces has partially met a great need. Nothing was wasted. Every garment was appreciated. Additional relief clothing should be sent out as soon as possible. Quilts, blankets, and men's, women's, and children's clothing are needed." Brother Perkin adds: "It does look as if the missionaries in South China would be glad for further shipments similar to what have already been sent. May God bless you and the good ladies and other workers who have helped in sending this very much needed relief to our less fortunate brethren in China."

Our own C.A.'s voted at their convention to help with a tithe of their offerings toward the China relief project. Send your bundles of clothing to China Relief, 1012 E. 14th Street, Oakland, California. And groups in the East Bay and neighboring districts interested in helping pack barrels at the depot, write or phone Mrs. C. E. Persing, 1502 Bissell Avenue, Richmond, California. Phone 1564J.

A very interesting W. M. C. meeting was sandwiched in between business sessions during the convention in San Francisco. A good group of home and foreign missionaries told of their labors for the Lord in their respective fields. A musical number was given by Frankie Horn of Hoopa, California, a product of our home missions effort. He was licensed this year to preach the gospel. Mrs. Griffin of the Women's Missionary Council of First Church in Oakland re-

ported about the packing of about 250 barrels of relief clothing for China during the past year. Mrs. Ivan Chapman represented the small churches not on the home missions list that received gifts from the W. M. C. at Christmas time for the children in the Sunday schools. She told of the blessing to the children and the new contacts made through this effort. Most of the foreign missionaries who spoke are now on their way or will be sailing soon to their respective fields of labor. We are looking forward to hearing more from Sister Benjamin, from Palestine, and Sister Heeteby, Fiji Islands, at camp meeting time.

Spring flowers were brought in by the Longsworths to add color and beauty to the occasion.

I want to give a word of appreciation here for Sister Beulah Cull's efficient help as secretary-treasurer of the W. M. C. during the two years her husband has served as chairman of the home missions committee. Our new secretary-treasurer, and chairman of the Peninsula district, is Mrs. Gladness Wood. She also has the vision of our women's work. Other new sectional chairmen are: Mrs. H. W. Brown, Shasta district; Mrs. E. L. Stewart, North San Joaquin district; Mrs. J. R. Edgar, Lake and Mendocino district; and Mrs. S. A. Ogle, South San Joaquin district.

Brother and Sister Clyde Shields desire to leave for the Philippine Islands as soon as possible. Anyone desiring to help with their equipment can contact Mrs. Cabacungan, 246 E. Jackson Street, San Jose, or Mrs. E. Hallock, Glad Tidings W.M.C. President, 1441 Ellis Street, San Francisco.

Plans for our missionary home look favorable, and we would appreciate your looking to the Lord as to what your group would like to contribute toward the comfort of the missionaries as they stop over on their way to and from the field.

Just a word of thanks to the groups who so lovingly helped with sewing and equipment, offerings, prayers, and encouraging words for the missionaries who recently sailed for China. I know you did it for the Lord, but I appreciate your wonderful co-operation. God bless you.—Mrs. R. J. Thurmond.

## Missions

(A paraphrase of 1 Cor. 13)

Though I speak concerning foreign missions with great eloquence, as becometh all Christian workers, and have not a *vision*, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.

And though I spend long hours in study and reading "The Other Sheep," and know much concerning the hardships and difficulties of a missionary's life, and have not a *vision*, it profiteth me nothing.

A vision holdeth one steady before God; inviting quiet meditation. A *vision* enableth one to pray earnestly; A *vision* burdeneth, that others may have salvation.

Doth not exalt any but Christ, seeketh only the redemption of the lost, is given to those who earnestly seek for it, thinketh no price too great to pay.

Trieth not to discourage those who would be missionaries, but trieth to encourage them to answer the call of God.

Beareth another's burdens, believeth that God is willing to undertake, hopeth for the salvation of many, endureth seeming failure and disappointment.

A *vision* doth not soon fail, but where there be excitement by hair-raising stories it shall fail: where there be mere tears stirred at a missionary convention, they shall cease; where there be only interest, it shall vanish away.

For all Christians know in part, and all Christians see in part; but when they have a *vision* their luke-warmness and intermittent interest shall be done away.

Before I caught the *vision* I prayed as one without a *vision*; but when I caught the *vision*, I put away these half-hearted things.

For now at least I have caught but a faint glimpse of the need which Jesus alone can satisfy, but someday I shall realize fully; now I know something of the price salvation cost, but then shall I see it clearly; even as also it hath been purchased for me.

And now to be a missionary Christian are necessary—a prayerful heart, a surrendered life, a *vision*: these three with others, but one of the greatest of these is *vision!*

—Selected.

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Some people grow under responsibilities, others merely swell.



# The District Council

OFFICE: 1475 Ellis Street, San Francisco 15  
PHONE: West 7010

W. T. GASTON,  
Superintendent

R. J. THURMOND,  
Secretary-Treasurer



## Report of Missionary Giving in Northern California and Nevada District

### For Calendar Year 1946

From District and Assemblies Only:  
Offerings for the year ..... \$77,488.69  
Given Direct ..... 15,659.87  
—  
\$93,148.56

### Fifteen Leading Assemblies

Oakland, First Assembly of God	
Church	\$7,360.28
Turlock, Bethel Temple	5,636.46
Sacramento, Bethel Temple	5,285.58
Modesto, Bethel Church	5,005.94
Oakland, Bethel Tabernacle	4,453.46
San Francisco, Glad Tidings Temple and Bible Institute	4,404.56
San Jose, Upper Room Pentecostal Mission	4,130.55
Morgan Hill, Full Gospel Church	3,058.83
Escalon, Assembly of God	2,361.19
Oroville, Assembly of God	1,747.51
Vallejo, Full Gospel Church	1,611.28
Dunsmuir, Pentecostal Assembly of God	1,446.98
Kerman, Grace and Truth Tabernacle	1,434.66
Berkeley, Assembly of God	1,325.71
Richmond, Full Gospel Assembly	1,258.12

### Church Fire

Word was received on the morning of February 21 from the District Presbyter, J. W. Belchar, that the church in Blue Lake had suffered quite a fire. The extent of the damage is not known at the time of writing. The fire was in the rear part of the second floor.

### With the Lord

Brother George L. Overton, for many years one of our licensed ministers, went to be with the Lord on February 1. Death came to him at the Howard Memorial Hospital in Willits after a brief illness. He had been in poor health for some time, but carried on in his work for the Lord until he was stricken but a few days before his home going. Burial was in the Odd Fellows cemetery in Willits. He leaves a sister and a nephew as his only family connections still living.

### National C.A. Day—March 9

To honor the youth of our movement, the General Council of the Assemblies of God has designated March 9 as National Christ's Ambassadors Day. District leaders, pastors, and local C.A.'s are asked to co-operate in making this an epochal event in the history of Assemblies of God young people.

Since one of the purposes of National C.A. Day is the recognition of the Christ's Ambassadors, the national radio program, *Sermons in Song*, will pay tribute to them. Locally, pastors are asked to give youth a special place in the services of March 9 and to direct their messages for that day to the young people.

To increase the ability of the National Office to serve the youth of the Assemblies of God, it is requested that every local C.A. group receive an offering on National C.A. Day for the support of this rapidly growing division of the General Council.

### Church Census

If the form from the Bureau of Census of the Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C., has not been sent in for your church, be sure that it is sent in soon. We would like to co-operate in this survey and are glad to let it be known that our Assemblies of God movement is growing as well as it is.

### S. S. Meeting

Our District Sunday School Representative, Brother L. W. Suter, is to hold a subdistrict Sunday school conference in the South Sacramento sub-district, in Roseville, beginning March 25. An opening rally service will be held on Monday, the 24th.

Two things will never happen to me—the thing that is too much for me and the thing that is not best for me.

—B. W. M.

### Schedule of Fellowship Meetings

Mar. 3—Berkeley, Ferndale, Hawthorne, Waterford
10—Lakeport, Martinez, Sunnyside, Tulelake
17—Benicia
24—Kerman, Pacific Grove
31—Live Oak
April 7—Fortuna, Oakland (Bethany), Portola

### New Standing Committees

These committees will serve through the 1948 District Council session. The first named in each is to serve as chairman.

#### Campground Committee

F. R. Hoole	E. L. Stewart
J. R. Edgar	R. A. Wilson
W. T. Scott	

#### Santa Cruz Campground Committee

O. A. Hart	R. J. Renfroe
R. A. Murray	

#### Home Missions Committee

C. O. Wood	C. E. Persing
L. R. Keys	

#### Credentials Committee

M. P. Bohnet	J. N. Gortner
J. W. Belchar	S. A. Ogle
H. W. Brown	M. M. York

The Table said to the Towel, "I outshine you."

"Not so," returned the Towel, "for the Master arose from the table of communion and wrapped a towel of service about Him."

The Towel and the Table are twin means of Christian life.

They acclaim that there is no task into which we cannot take the divine presence.

If you would be master, learn to be the servant.

It was through a towel that Jesus placed His benediction upon menial duties.

Into the lowest service then let us take the highest blessedness.

Arise from the table of communion and wrap a towel of service about you.

ALAMEDA—Brother Paul L. Ferguson has resigned as pastor.

ATWATER—Sister A. M. Heetebry and Sister Gladness Wood are the special speakers scheduled for the W.M.C. rally in the Atwater Church on March 6. There will be morning and afternoon services.

AUBURN—The Special meetings with Evangelist Howard S. May closed on February 16. T. L. Mendenhall is the pastor.

BERKELEY—The dedication of the new church building is scheduled for March 3 at the time the East Bay fellowship meeting is held there. The lovely new building is on the corner of Allston Way and Byron Street, six blocks from the former location. Allston Way crosses San Pablo. The pastor is Sister Eleanor M. Johnson.

CHICO—Evangelist Frederick J. Betts began a revival campaign on February 25. The church is on the air over KHSL, 1290 kc, on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. E. Wm. Anderson is the pastor.

COLUSA—Souls were saved, bodies healed, and a number were waiting on the Lord for the baptism of the Spirit during the revival campaign Evangelist Walter H. Smith held for Pastor Floyd R. Hoole in February.

CONCORD—Pastor T. S. Gopen reports: "The Lord has been blessing in our services. A good youth revival was conducted in January by Evangelist Paul Peterson. A goodly number accepted Christ as their Saviour. Plans are being made to build on to the church so as to enlarge our Sunday school department."

COVELO—Brother and Sister F. T. Alford are the new pastors, succeeding Brother V. A. Graham.

DELHI—Evangelist and Mrs. Payne, from Indiana, conducted a very successful revival meeting the first of the year with Pastor Harold Persing in Delhi. The South San Joaquin fellowship meeting held there February 17 enjoyed an outpouring of the blessing of the Lord. Pastor Ralph Gaither, of Hiway City, and Pastor H. C. Vancil, of Patterson, spoke in the afternoon service. The evening speaker was Pastor S. G. Cox of Madera.

DUNSMUIR—Pastor Glen Ayers, of Tulelake, and Pastor E. Wm. Anderson, of Chico, were the speakers at the Shasta district fellowship meeting held there February 13. The pastor in Dunsmuir is R. E. Cull.

EL CERRITO—In early February there was a missionary flavor in the meetings as a number of missionaries, most of whom sailed for China on February 14, were speakers at several special services. The visiting missionaries were Brother and Sister Paul Davidson, Brother and Sister Philip Hogan, Brother and Sister Don Rich, Brother and Sister Leland Morse. Other missionary speakers include Brother Roy Jacobson, also a missionary to China, and Brother Ralph Cobb, missionary to Africa. The pastor is L. H. Rogers.

ELKO, NEVADA—Youth Evangelist Joe Calabrese, of Kansas City, Missouri, began special meetings February 9 with Pastor Bernard Tewell.

## News from . . .

# Here and There

ALBERT J. LEBECK, Field Reporter :: 2622 W Street :: Sacramento, California

ESCALON—A Sunday school conference conducted by Brother William Pickthorn in early February was of great benefit to the assembly there and to the nearby assemblies who participated in the conference. Since the conference, Evangelist Theodore E. Ness has been holding a revival campaign. The pastor is A. Byron League.

GALT—The splendid new church building, very recently completed and made ready for occupancy, was dedicated February 17 at a special subdistrict meeting and C. A. rally. The pastor, Brother L. R. White, and congregation have worked long and hard to get the building erected and are to be commended for the very fine job that has been done. Brother Robert Carrington was in charge of the preliminary part of the dedication service, and Brother Gaston was the speaker for the occasion.

GRASS VALLEY—Brother Leland Johnson held special meeting with Pastor W. A. McBride from February 9 to 16. A missionary to the Philippines and to China, Brother Johnson presented missionary interests in his ministry. The congregation was encouraged and edified, and quite a number of new people were in attendance.

GRIDLEY—Evangelist and Mrs. Virgil Waren conducted a successful revival meeting for Pastor Charles L. Elmes recently. There was as many as 150 attending the children's services in the afternoons.

HAYWARD—Brother William E. Long, Secretary of the Southern California District, held a very fine three-day meeting for Pastor E. G. Eskelin in mid February. The Monday evening service was held in the Civic Auditorium theater in Oakland.

KELSEYVILLE—At the close of the Lake-Mendocino district fellowship meeting held there January 13, the District Superintendent, Brother Gaston, for the subdistrict presented the outgoing presbyter, Brother L. F. Wilson, and Sister Wilson with a beautiful table and study lamp and also a money offering. The new church building was dedicated on that date, with a great time of blessing upon those present. Pastor Luther Perkins, together with faithful helpers, has worked very hard on the construction, and now the assembly has its own place of worship. Labor continues on the finishing work of the building. Brother Perkins reports having a very good ten days revival meeting with Brother and Sister John J. Mitchell in early February.

LAKEPORT—The meetings were well attended during the four weeks of revival services Evangelist and Mrs. John Mitchell held recently for Pastor S. S. Webster.

LINCOLN—Plans are made for a revival campaign with Evangelist Mandigo and wife

in the near future. Brother E. W. Knutson is the pastor.

LIVINGSTON—Brother Ed Byram is the new pastor.

LOVELOCK, NEVADA—Evangelist Jack Wien began a revival meeting with Pastor Vernon Ragsdale on February 9.

MODESTO (Airport)—Several were saved, reports Pastor E. M. Adams, at the North San Joaquin fellowship meeting held there February 3.

MODESTO (6th and G)—At the time the report came in, souls were being saved and baptized in the Holy Spirit in every service during the meetings Brother A. B. Cox was holding in February. Sunday school attendance has grown nearly to 500. Recently there were six additions to the church and 12 were baptized in water. At the present time Sunday school rooms are being built. Erling and Helen Saxelid are pastors.

OAKLAND (Bethel)—The Brooks Ministers, an evangelistic party composed of the three sons of Sister Clara Brooks, whose writings are familiar to young readers of our Pentecostal literature, and the wives of these ministers, have been in a good revival campaign for Pastor R. H. Moon since February 12. The East Bay fellowship meeting was held there February 3. Brother A. B. Cox and Brother John W. Follette were the afternoon and evening speakers respectively.

OAKLAND (Calvary)—The Lummer Music Makers have been holding a good campaign there, beginning February 9. Pastor and people are working hard to complete their new church building. Nearly \$4,000 was given in pledges and cash for this purpose on a recent Sunday morning. Work is proceeding nicely, and it is hoped that the completed building can be dedicated about the first of October. There will be four auditoriums for Sunday school, beside the main church auditorium, and eleven large, bright, airy Sunday school rooms, some of which can be subdivided when it becomes necessary. The pastor is V. Ernest Shores.

OAKLAND (First Church)—Brother E. E. Krogstad assumed his duties as pastor of the church at a special service Sunday morning, February 16. The District Superintendent, Brother Gaston, was the speaker of the occasion.

OAKLAND (Grace)—Instead of beginning February 23 as had been planned, the Fox Evangelistic Party will begin a campaign with Pastor Irving Ford on April 27.

OAKLAND (Temple)—"The Oakland Temple Church is enjoying a fine ministry in their new location, in the First Lutheran Church, 16th and Grove Streets, just three blocks from the City Hall. Utilizing these splendid facilities in definite evangelism, every

department of the work has enlarged. Paul Peterson of San Francisco, Howard Reid of Los Angeles, Edwin and Irma Anderson of Providence, R.I., The Plymires, Lula Ashmore, Robert Carrington, William Lucas, Dale Hundsdoerfer, Sister Pearl Benjamin, Robert Renfroe, and Beth Beckley have been among recent speakers at special services."—Winston Nelson, pastor.

**PALO ALTO**—Evangelist Winston I. Nunes of Canada is to begin revival meetings with Pastor R. J. Renfroe on April 1.

**PITTSBURG** (Bella Vista) — Brother George W. Clements is the pastor succeeding Brother C. S. Holderman.

**PORTOLA** — Sister Julia Peterson and Ruth Bertenshaw are the new pastors. J. F. Bowling is the former pastor.

**RED BLUFF**—On January 24 Bethel Temple enjoyed the fellowship of neighboring C.A.'s and the ministry of Brother Paul Pipkin in a grand C.A. rally. The main floor and the recently completed balcony were nearly filled to capacity, and there were a fine number of young people at the altar seeking the Saviour. Two of the outstanding services during the past month have been missionary services with Brother Ralph Cobb, missionary to Africa, and Brother and Sister Paul Pipkin, preparing to go to China.

**RICHMOND**—The C.A.'s are in a financial contest to help on the new church. The assembly hopes to get into the new building by midsummer. A prayer meeting every morning has been in progress for over six weeks. C. E. Persing is the pastor.

**ROSEVILLE**—Evangelist Johnnie McCullough begins revival meetings with Pastor R. A. Wilson on March 1.

**SACRAMENTO** (Bethel) — Evangelist Winston I. Nunes closed a five week revival campaign on February 16. The meetings drew record crowds each Sunday evening and splendid attendance throughout the week. The Sunday school record climbed to 501, making one more than their goal, which was 500. During the five weeks there were nearly 100 people saved. The pastor is Nelson E. Hinman.

**SAN FRANCISCO** (Bethel) — John W. Follette held very good meetings for Pastor Charles G. Weston in February, beginning on the 16th.

**SAN FRANCISCO** (Glad Tidings)—The special meetings Dr. Chas. S. Price held from February 9 to 16 were greatly enjoyed by all who attended them. Many testified to the healing touch of the Lord after the special service of prayer for the sick was held midway during the campaign. Brother L. R. Keys is the pastor.

**SANTA CRUZ**—A youth and missionary rally was held February 17 in Glad Tidings Tabernacle, with Paul and Violet Pipkin conducting the service. Brother Harry C. Warwick, chaplain at San Quentin Prison, was guest speaker February 16.

**SEBASTOPOL**—A number received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the building was packed out at the North Bay district fellowship meeting held there February 17. The afternoon service was devoted to Sun-

day school work. Brother Joseph G. Garland, of Benicia, and Sister Esther Boardman spoke on the need of the Sunday school. The evening speaker was Brother E. L. Stewart, of Ceres, presbyter in the North San Joaquin district. The pastor in Sebastopol is J. L. Jeffrey.

**ST HELENA**—Brother and Sister F. T. Alford held a good revival campaign for Pastor Richard C. Fulmer in February.

**SUSANVILLE**—The Nevada district fellowship meeting was held there February 10. Both services were well attended and the blessing of the Lord was upon the gathering. Sister Julia Peterson was the afternoon speaker, and Pastor R. L. Stuck of Reno was the evening speaker. The Sunday school attendance has reached the one hundred mark recently. The pastor is George W. Kiser.

**TUOLUMNE**—“Brother and Sister O. C. Smith of G.T.B.I. and Brother Ray Morales gave us two services. God blessed in a wonderful way. Souls were saved and Brother Ray received the baptism. Brother and Sister Fred Prewitt were up and gave us a good service. God blessed and saved souls while Brother and Sister McAtee were here for two weeks meeting. The revival has continued and 15 have been saved and two have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.”—Dixie Pearl Thollander, pastor.

**VALLEJO**—Evangelist Johnnie McCullough held a good campaign for Pastor E. J. Cornwall the latter part of February.

**WALNUT CREEK**—The fellowship meeting of the Diablo Valley section was held there February 10. The speaker was Brother C. E. Persing, of Richmond. The pastor in Walnut Creek is William R. Porter.

**WINTERS**—The South Sacramento fellowship meeting was held there February 17. Brother John Gouveia was the afternoon speaker. Brother T. L. Mendenhall spoke in the interest of the Sunday school. Evangelist Walter H. Smith brought the message at the evening service. The pastor is E. E. Zimmerman.

**WOODLAND**—The assembly expects to dedicate the new church building soon. The first meeting was held in the new building on February 9. Sisters Mildred Howard and Hazel Youngman have been filling in during Pastor Harold Byram's recent illness.

**YUBA CITY**—The interior of the church has been undergoing redecorating. The pastor is Brother Fred H. Reichert.

### New Arrivals

On the morning of November 16, 1946, little Oren Paul joined his parents on the mission field in South Africa. The happy parents are Brother and Sister Paul C. Wright (Miriam Kennedy).

Lyle Philip, their second son, came to join the family circle of Pastor and Mrs. Don Lehmann of E. Palo Alto.



The new parsonage at 322 Peralta recently purchased by the Hayward Assembly.

### Personal Mention

After seven weeks of successful revival meetings in Clearwater, Florida, Evangelist T. B. DON CARLOS began meetings in Sanford in the same state. The latter part of March he will open a meeting with Brother Stanley Cooke in Watertown, N.Y.

\* \* \* \* \*

Evangelist P. E. ROBERTSON spent four weeks in Albany, Oregon, and also visited and preached in Dalles, Corvalis, and Stayton. At the close of the Oregon meetings, Brother and Sister Robertson went to the San Joaquin Valley where they engaged in jail and highway work, and report many conversions in labor camps in the southern section of the valley. Many sought the Lord in the jail services conducted in towns they visited in the interest of spreading the gospel message.

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### Wedding Bells

In a beautiful ceremony in Bethel Temple in Sacramento Elbert A. (Pete) North and Leona Richey were united in marriage on the evening of February 14.

The Norths will take over the work in Whitethorn in early March.

### With the Lord

Our sympathy is extended to Sister Lebeck and the family because of their recent and sudden loss. Brother Lebeck, father of Albert and Clarence Lebeck, was stricken and taken within an hour at his home in Santa Rosa on Sunday afternoon, February 25.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sister Nanny Satterberg, for a number of years matron at G.T.B.I., went to be with her Lord in early January.



# Christ's Ambassadors

ROBERT CARRINGTON, President, 4141 Fourth Ave., Sacramento PAUL H. PIPKIN, Vice-President, 260 Main St., Watsonville  
WESLEY P. STEELBERG, Secretary-Treasurer, P.O. Box 401, San Leandro, California

## The President's Annual Report

Another six months of full time C.A. activity has drawn to a close. We humbly praise the Lord for the way He has blessed and multiplied every effort put forth for Him. Immediately following the summer convention your president attended the international Youth for Christ convention at Minneapolis, en route to the Eastern Canadian District where he was evening speaker at the first youth conference to be held in Canada. Time would not permit telling of the God-given results of this meeting, suffice it to say the Lord showed Himself mighty to the overthrowing of the stronghold of Satan.

Rushing back from eastern Canada we were ready for our own youth conference at Asilomar. Reports still continue to filter in telling of the lasting stabilizing, reviving effect this summer conference has had in the lives of our Pentecostal youth. Should Jesus tarry we believe that these conferences will continue to be larger and more spiritually edifying year by year.

Throughout the year the clothing for China project has been co-sponsored with the Women's Missionary Council and approximately 250 barrels of clothing for China Relief have been sent. We wish to express appreciation to the First Assembly of God Church of Oakland for their magnanimous part in becoming a depot for the receiving and sending of this clothing. The women of the local W.M.C. have greatly assisted in making this clothing ready. It is now too difficult for them to aid longer in this respect and we have accepted the offer of our Brother Franklin Murray to avail ourselves of the facilities soon to be made ready in what once was the Tenth Avenue Baptist Church of Oakland and which Brother Murray is repairing and making into an Assembly of God edifice. Thus the depot for clothing for China Relief will in all prob-

ability be the Tenth Avenue Church of Oakland.

Our goal set at the beginning of the year for Speed the Light was for \$1000 for each of five missionary couples or a total of \$5000. This goal we topped by over \$1700 or a sum total of \$6,724.58; thus we became next to the highest district in Speed the Light giving for the year.

Many groups became 1-2-3-4-5-, and even 600 per cent givers in this project. Lest we may overlook some we shall refrain from the mention of names of groups at this time, but we do appreciate every effort and every sacrifice in this respect.

One missionary couple has resigned their appointment to the mission field for the time being and your executives have designated another missionary couple to receive the \$1000 in their stead, Brother and Sister James Baker, both born in China and recently returned to the land of their calling. These God-called soul-loving missionary Christ's Ambassadors who have had no district they could call their own will be the recipients of this \$1000 for Speed the Light equipment.

We cannot as yet announce the date or place of a youth camp this year inasmuch as we have not had suitable dates offered. We can, however, announce our camp meeting convention to be held July 5 and 6 at St. Helena with the possibility of our speaker being Brother Kenneth M. Haystead, who for a number of years was quite well known in our district. He, at present, is District President of the Ontario District of Canada. Frequently he has been camp meeting speaker and we feel him a man who can bring a spiritual challenge to our youth.

We feel it would be only right and fair at this time to tell you that for a few weeks during the holiday season your president was asked to be interim

pastor at First Church in Oakland. We did this advisedly and with the approval of our District Superintendent, who felt that because of the prevailing circumstances it was the proper thing to do. During this interim we continued to carry on such C.A. activity as was possible but we did not receive salary from the C.A. treasury inasmuch as the church took care of our finances at the time.

To our sectional chairmen we owe a vote of thanks. This year, as never in the past, have sectional rallies taken on the proportions of being young conventions. Sectional chairmen have been active for the Lord, in most cases putting a great deal of time and service into making their rallies successful.

Our monthly paper, *The Ambassador* is proving to be a successful medium for the knitting together of a closer fellowship between the C.A. office and our local groups. Of recent date you have noticed we have a new editor, a newcomer in our district, a talented young man with a successful ministry, Ernest Eskelin, of Hayward. Already he has proved his worth to us in the fine way he handles the editorship of our paper and we trust he and the paper are a real blessing to all our C.A.'s.

We want to thank Brothers R. J. Renfroe, C. E. Persing, and Wm. T. Scott, our counselors, and Brothers Gaston and Thurmond, the District executives, for their co-operation, understanding, and wisdom in counseling with us during the past months. They have not always rubber-stamped our desires, nor would we want them to, but their wisdom time and again has aided us to our decisions.

Our District secretary-treasurer should be commended at this time. Brother Wesley Steelberg has given of himself to the work of the Ambassadors untiringly and unstintingly. Few of us really realize the hours spent and the work involved in the office held by our brother Wesley. God bless him for all his labor.

I have reserved speaking of our vice

resident until now for I believe the entire district is going to miss the ministry of our Brother Paul Pipkin. He has labored faithfully for His Lord first of all and second for youth. He spark-plugged our effort for Speed the Light program which went so far over the goal. He, for a time, edited *The Ambassador* until unable to do so longer, and now that he feels the call of the Lord on his heart to go to regions beyond, we say God bless our Brother Paul, our own Northern California and Nevada Christ Ambassador representative in China.

And now in closing this report, without attempting to preach I should like to make mention of some noticeable trends. There has been in some few local groups a spirit of levity and lightness. To such we would run up the red flag of warning. The Christ's Ambassadors never was, nor we pray God never shall be, a social organization with merely social ends. Let us be first of all spiritual, godly, and Christlike. May our services be filled with anointing which comes from above. Jesus said "And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me."

Then, there is the tendency in some places to programizing as though this were an end in itself. When we, a spiritual people, lower ourselves to mere programizing we become second-rate show places at best, and God is not pleased nor are the people edified. Yes, give us well organized, well planned, well thought out services, but give us also prayed down, spirit anointed, God-inspired, heaven-blessed meetings at the same time.

Finally, I would like to remind ourselves of this fact, too, and one which cannot be denied nor overlooked. Throughout our entire district from north to south, east to west, in nearly all our churches, there is a rising spirit of revival taking place. Pastors tell us constantly of how in their churches sometimes literally dozens of young people are receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit. The power of God is falling, young people are on fire. Oh, bless the Lord, the outpouring of the Latter Rain is still here. Pentecostal youth is receiving a like Pentecostal experience as Mother and Dad. Young people, Christ's Ambassadors, let us continue to get on fire! Keep on fire! Set others on fire for God! — R. Carrington.

## Conversation of Cigarette to Its User

by J. W. BELCHAR

The Lord gave me this for a man that was using cigarettes. I took a cigarette and held it up before him, and said, "As you listen to what is said, consider it is the cigarette talking to you." He afterward gave them up and was filled with the Holy Ghost. The following is what I told him.

The cigarette brags about its power and strength to its user. It says:

1. I am stronger than you are.
2. I am bigger than your will; I have made a slave out of you.
3. I cause you to spend your money for that which is not bread (Isa. 55:2).
4. I cause men to think more of me than they do of the Bible (2 Cor. 7:1). (Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord.)
5. I make a captive out of all my subjects; I make them do as I please. In other words, I am their boss.
6. I cause folk to stay at home from the house of the Lord, and keep them from yielding their life to the fullness of the Lord.
7. I cause folk to become impatient and nervous when I am not in their company or use. I have even caused many to forsake Jesus Christ their Saviour, and they have lost their souls.
8. I am 1000 times smaller than you; but I can lick you and millions more like you, for you cannot get along without me. I am impersonated by a trinity that is very powerful; namely, the world, the flesh, and the devil.
9. There is one fellow I hate. He is always working against me; His name is Jesus Christ. When he comes into the lives of men, if they will allow Him, His Spirit and blood will destroy my power over them. For He came to break the chains of sin and to open the prison and set the captive free.
10. When faith in Jesus' name is applied to me, it is as though I had never been used by that person. It destroys my power and influence, and I become an outcast, trampled

under feet of men. For it is then that I become vile and contemptible and am cast aside.

11. If the followers of Christ only knew that it was Satan, my father, which gave me my power and support, I could have no power or influence over them. I hear read in the Bible that Christ came to "destroy the works of the devil." If by *faith* they would apply the Word of God and the blood of His Son Jesus Christ, it would kill me forever.

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"Remember that every friend, every comrade, helps to make you better or to make you worse. You are either drawn toward our Lord Jesus Christ and His purity, or else you are drawn away from Him. Mark you that when a chum proves to be true blue it helps you to be so also. When you find a chum white and clean in thought and word, do you not long to be like him? You choose your friends and like flows to like even as the brooks flow to the river. You are likely to become what your closest friends now are.

"Even the trout of the mountain streams change color with their surroundings. Where there are open stretches with sandy bottom the trout will be light in color.

"Here is the test for your special friends and chums: are they such chums as will be pleasing to God and helpful to you?"

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I know not why He loved me, I had on  
Him no claim,  
With nothing to command me but guilt  
and sin and shame.  
No beauty was about me, no virtues and  
no good;  
He only chose to love me, and that  
because He would.

Yea, this is all the reason that I can know  
or find,  
Why He to me, so worthless, should be  
so very kind.  
Oh! is it any wonder that this my theme  
should be,  
"The Son of God who loved me, and  
gave Himself for me?"

## Ten Commandments for Sunday School Workers

1. Thou shalt be a man—or a woman. Men are seeking better methods but God is seeking better men.

2. Thou shalt be a leader. A leader goes before those he leads but is not separated from them.

3. Thou shalt have a vision.

Every superintendent, every teacher should have two schools, two classes, one in his head—the other in the building.

4. Thou shalt have faith.

Faith in God, His Word and His work, faith in the church and the Sunday school are essentials for every worker. We need faith in ourselves, too, because God has a place for each of us in carrying out His plan.

5. Thou shalt be loyal.

Be loyal to your church, your pastor, your associates, your vision and ideal—but most of all to our Lord's command, "Teach all nations."

6. Thou shalt be a student.

This means study, reading, and thinking.

7. Thou shalt be ambitious.

This means to have a high aim—not ambition for self preferment, but ambition for the cause. Our schools will never surpass our aim and our ambition for them.

8. Thou shalt be enthusiastic.

Enthusiasm is the greatest business asset in the world. Enthusiasm is being awake. Enthusiasm is nothing more than faith in action, and it achieves the impossible.

9. Thou shalt be patient.

Milton said, "Patience is the exercise of saints and victor over all that tyranny or fortune can inflict. . . He who can have patience can have what he will."

10. Thou shalt be humble.

Great hearts are always humble.

### A New Commandment

Thou shalt have love.

Not a sickly, sentimental love but a love that recognizes our true relationship to God. Such a love drives us to our tasks for Him.

—*The Gospel Herald.*

God has no larger field for the man who is not faithfully doing his work where he is.

## Accident Prevention

(Continued from page 5)

employee has the right to do anything which may harm a fellow-worker." Paraphrase it and it reads, "no one identified with the church has the right to do anything which may harm a fellow-Christian."

A phase of safety engineering that is interesting is safety psychology. Psychology is the science which treats of the mind in any of its aspects. Industrial psychology deals with the behavior of persons at work. Safety psychology has to do with this work behavior as it affects their safety. We can apply safety psychology to the person newly come to join us, or newly converted.

When an individual identifies himself with the Christian church he brings with him certain abilities and mental attitudes either latent or more or less fully developed. These abilities and attitudes will have influence upon the manner in which he accepts responsibilities and in which he responds to suggestions. Seeing the person in actual contact with fellow believers, it is possible to evaluate his character traits and abilities. He manifests likes and dislikes, beliefs and disbeliefs, serenity and irritability, devotion and indifference. Correctly guided and trained, he may avoid the accidents that can result in his moving away from Christian influence—possibly for all time.

Much of the knowledge of human behavior has been crystalized into short statements which are worth keeping in mind. (1) Faulty behavior consists of doing the wrong thing or failing to do the right thing or not doing enough of the right thing. (2) It is far easier to form a new habit than to eradicate an old one. (3) Education is slow, adult education is slower, adult re-education is slowest of all. (4) The capacity of the human mind is limited to relatively few ideas concerning any subject. (5) Leaders, teachers, supervisors must never get discouraged.

In conclusion, a few generalizations. First, younger persons not thoroughly indoctrinated (a term recently given general usage) do leave the influence of the church. Second, that moving out is accidental in that it was unplanned and unforeseen. Third, we as Christians who are interested in soul saving have

## About the Bible

by H. G. BECK

From a literary point of view its sublimity has no peer. As a best seller, it does not begin to have a rival. The Bible and portions of it are translated into more than 900 different dialects and languages.

Although the uninformed and many professors of Christianity have not honored it, the Bible stands always a friend to truth from whatever source it may come. Indeed it is the truth and its champion advocate.

In the hands of its faithful missionaries it has always preceded revivals of learning. Nearly all of our early universities were institutions for the training of the ministry and missionaries.

The Bible contains the greatest amount of ethical and spiritual truth. It has survived 19 centuries; the onslaught of wicked rulers, so-called higher critics, atheists and skeptics, and yet its demand is on the increase. Kingdoms, monarchies, and nations, have risen and fallen around it.

Nations which have heeded its counsel and embraced its truth have been blessed and prospered. Individuals who continue to do so, contribute to the prosperity and blessing of whatever nation they are a member. On the other hand those who do not heed its precepts become foes to their nation and unwittingly or otherwise contribute to its possible downfall, notwithstanding the number of bonds they may buy in time of war or the amount of civic interest they show. The Bible teaches that "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Prov. 14:34). "For Thou, Lord, will bless the righteous; with favor wilt thou compass him as with a shield" (Psalm 5:12).

—*Guerneville Times.*

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a responsibility which we cannot dismiss by an attitude of "not my fault."

We are all concerned with accident prevention in Christian life. God created us with free wills; those free wills permit us to make bad decisions; those bad decisions result in spiritual accidents. And unforeseen and unplanned though they may be, they are nevertheless destructive to followers of Christ.

## THE LAST DAYS

(Article sent in by Sister Nettie Clark from "In the Mailbox" out of *Wheels*.)

There is a first and last to everything. I wonder how many in the employ of the Key System believe we are living in the last days spoken of in the book of Daniel, chapter 12, verse 4. See how this is fulfilled by overcrowded trains and bus lines running from coast to coast. And all steamships carry their capacity from port to port. Every university in our 48 States is overcrowded on account of men and women wanting to increase their knowledge.

Some men say that this earth has been going on for millions of years and will continue on for millions of more years. How old this earth is no man can guess. I took a list of 18 of our leading scientists and saw where no two of them came within a million years of each other in guessing the age of this earth. So your guess is as good as theirs. If God wanted us to know the age of this earth He would have told us in the first chapter of Genesis. So let us not worry about the age of this earth. But we do know and are positive that from the first chapter of Genesis to this date is six thousand years. There are seven thousand years to God's plan. Five have come and gone. This sixth age is about to close. Please read 1 Thessalonians 4:13 to 18 and see how this age will close.

Conditions here on earth are not going to get better. Don't kid yourself into thinking they are and build up a false security around yourself. As for crime we have not seen anything yet. There is another war coming. Read Matthew 24:21-22.

All believers in Christ are taken off this earth before this happens. Your only escape from this next war is to be a believer in Christ. Can you afford to say I will wait and see? There is no other time but the "now time." Tomorrow may be too late forever. While Noah was building the ark and preaching for 120 years God's judgment by flood, the people scoffed at him. But the flood came in due time and they were destroyed from the earth. There is no second chance as some of the false cults are teaching. Just as sure as there was a last day in the year 1946 so will there

be a last day to this sixth age we are living in.

When this age will close I do not know. No man knows the day nor the hour. Let us live each day expecting this event at any moment. It may be today, and without warning.

It is appointed unto men once to die, then the judgment (Heb. 9:27).

A tip to the wise is sufficient.

In closing, let us thank our employer and be honest with him. A good employee drinks no liquor.—*Anonymous*.

(*Wheels* is an electric trainmen's and motor coach drivers' magazine.)

### Spiritual Intrigues

(Continued from page 4)

present darkness, sits One upon a throne of light. Hallelujah! Again we are indebted to Paul for his clear insight into these plans and projects also. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. He destined us in love to be His sons through Jesus Christ according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved." O wondrous plan devised before the worlds were spoken into existence, for Jesus was the "lamb slain before the foundation of the world," that man, who sinned, grievously sinned against himself and society, and, most consequential of all, who grievously sinned against God, rejecting Him and His Son, and His plan that man might be redeemed and loosed from the bondage of sin, from the bondage of Satan, from the bondage of himself, and be made again a child of God by adoption, by redemption through the payment of a price, not gold or silver, or any other earthly thing, but with the blood of Jesus, and which plan had its origin in God.

As children of God we have an inheritance which consists of a renewed and cleansed character, which is now

being molded and shaped in the image of Jesus Christ as we walk with God, and of eternal life, which shall be perfect in love, the highest expression of personality we have, perfect in appreciation, and perfect in enjoyment. Who has the authority and power to bring this about? Jesus Christ, our wonderful Lord. For God hath "set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power, and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but in the world to come." That is His power and authority. We "wrestle," and in our strivings and struggles we are led by the victorious Son of God, who has been placed in a position of power and authority over the very things we struggle against. Where was this accomplished? "And you, being dead in your sins, and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses; blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross; and having spoiled principalities and powers he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it."

It was at the cross that Jesus worked the work of redemption; triumphed over death, hell, and the grave, and every other wicked plot against man; and rose again to take His place of authority, power and victory over the forces of evil and darkness. He is the great head of the church. He fills the church with Himself, with His triumphant power, and His own personality. Why do we not yield ourselves more fully to Him, and let Him fill us with His triumphant life?

It is good to learn of our weakness if it drives us to lean on His strength.

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Keep your light shining. God will put it where it can be seen.

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"Be an Amen Christian, but don't shout it louder than you live it."

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Men may save money, but money will never save them.

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To succeed you need not only initiative, you need *finishitive*, as well.

# Current Signs

A DIGEST OF CURRENT EVENTS BY ALBERT J. LEBECK

**Half of Marriages May End in Divorce**  
Figures indicate that the alarming increase in divorce is not abating. Certain sociologists estimate that by 1965 more than half of all marriages in this country will end in divorce. Investigation discloses that the chief cause for divorce is improper preparation for marriage. Alcoholism, however, runs a close second. Supreme Court Judge Edwin M. Robson asserts: "From an examination of some 300 cases in my court, I have found that in approximately 72 per cent the causes of the marital difficulties were directly or indirectly attributable to liquor." While this is unquestionably true, the real underlying cause is the lack of recognition of God's interest in the life, and the failure to give His Word the central place in the home. Until these are restored, there will never be a proper evaluation of the permanence of marriage, and the resulting safety of the home.

## The Uncertainty of Life

In 1928, a very important business meeting was held in a large Chicago hotel. It was attended by ten of the world's most successful financiers, namely; the presidents of the largest independent steel company; of the National City Bank; of the greatest utility company; of the greatest gas company; of the New York Stock Exchange and of the Bank of International Settlements; and, in addition, the greatest wheat speculator, a member of the cabinet of the President of the U.S., the greatest "bear" in Wall Street, and the head of the world's greatest monopoly. All would agree that these men had found the secret of making money, and of securing the best of earth's possessions. But their later history reveals how utterly they failed in life.

Charles Schwab, the president of the largest independent steel company, died a bankrupt, who had lived on borrowed money five years before his decease.

James Stillman, president of the National City Bank, died insolvent; and

Samuel Insull, the president of the greatest utility company, a fugitive from justice, died penniless in a foreign land.

Howard Hopson, president of the largest gas company, is insane; and Richard Whitney, president of the New York Stock Exchange, was recently released from Sing Sing penitentiary.

Leon Fraser, president of the Bank of International Settlements, died a suicide.

Arthur Cutten, the greatest wheat speculator, died abroad, insolvent, while Albert Fall, formerly a cabinet member, was pardoned and allowed to go home from prison to die.

Jesse Livermore, the greatest "bear," killed himself, and Ivar Kruegar, the head of the greatest monopoly, also took his own life.

Surely this is a startling illustration of the Scriptural teaching of the folly of laying up treasures on earth and not being rich in spiritual assets.

## Foolish Americans

The people of America spend \$750 for amusements and luxuries for every dollar they contribute to foreign missions. They lay up treasure for themselves instead of being "rich toward God" (Luke 12:21) and God calls such people "fools."

## Suicides in Nation Nearly Doubled Slayings in 1946

The public health service reported a total of 14,782 persons killed themselves, while 7,412 were killed by others. This followed the same pattern as in 1944, when there were 13,231 suicides and 6,553 homicides.

## Suddenly Destroyed

News headlines are filled with the shocking narratives of "sudden deaths," "Worst Hotel Fire in History of U.S. Claims Lives of 120." "Mine Explosion Kills 15." "Air Tragedy Takes Lives of 28." Each day the automobile accidents add to the endless toll, and scores of other accidents keep up their devastat-

ing work. It would be unfair to state that *all* who are suddenly called into eternity have been of those who have "hardened their necks" against God's will; but, nevertheless, there is a real warning for all in Proverbs 29:1. "He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy."

## Eliminated?

A phenomenon of today's Christian world is the remarkable virility of the Youth for Christ movement. Across America each Saturday night between 700 and 1,000 meetings are held, each attracting from 100 to 500,000 young people. It has been unjustly charged that these Youth for Christ activities were communistic, but the truth is out for all to know. The Young Communist League is planning a propaganda campaign in high schools against the Youth for Christ movement. Ted Schwartz, Communist leader in high schools, has declared: "Youth for Christ must be eliminated if Communism is to be spread in America." This is good news. If Youth for Christ continues to lay emphasis on the middle word of their name, they will not only overcome their enemies, but prosper mightily under the blessing of God.

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Where one goes hereafter depends largely upon what one goes after here.

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## Don't Stay Away from Church

Don't stay away from church because it rains. That would not keep you away from your business.

Don't stay away because company happened to drop in. Bring them along.

Don't stay away because you are rich. We can help you to cure that.

Don't stay away because you are poor. We have knowledge of One who has the riches of eternal life.

Don't stay at home because you are lazy. Idle men tempt the devil.

Don't stay away because the church is imperfect. Should you join the perfect church its perfection would cease.

Don't stay away because you do not need the church. It is not so.

Don't stay away because you know more than the preacher. You might enjoy the singing.—Selected.